



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Division Director

October 6, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *adg*

RE: Site Inspection, Sinbad Mining Company, Sinbad Mine, M/015/030, Emery County, Utah

Date of Inspection: August 20, 1998  
Time of Inspection: 1650 - 1735  
Conditions: Partly cloudy, hot  
Participants: Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the reclaimed mine site while in the area in consideration of release of the site.

The first area visited was the main portal and mine dump area. Photographs of this area were taken looking toward the east and southeast. Features visible from this vantage point include the backfilled portal in left the foreground with the two regraded and topsoiled waste rock dumps in the middle of the photo. The smaller of the two waste rock dumps was topsoiled while only a portion of the other larger waste rock dump was topsoiled.

The gray waste rock from underground operations which was not covered with topsoil has little to no vegetation for the most part. The reclaimed mine site area in general is fairly clean with no significant amounts of trash or debris. There were a few minor pieces of debris like metal pipes or steel rod, but nothing significant.

From the mine portal site I walked along the ridge running to the west of the site looking for the shaft site. Along this route there are several locations with drill cuttings and one drill pad that had been graded, but not reclaimed. I believe these features were not associated with this mine operation. Photographs were taken at what was suspected to be the reclaimed shaft site. Photos of this regraded area include the field book. If this is the shaft site, there was no sign of settling. Revegetation success at this area was very minimal. Visible at this site was a small wire cable coming out of the ground.

From here I traveled back to the western side of the waste dumps at the mine portal site. Photographs of the large waste pile were taken looking to the north. This photograph includes a

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tire on the ground and the state vehicle to the left of the pile. Detail photos show the erosional channels developing on the southwest slope of the large pile. Photographs of the smaller wastepile were taken looking northeast from the top of the large pile. Detail photos of the erosional channels on the southeast side of the large dump were also taken.

There was some vegetation on the northeast slope of the large pile where topsoil had been placed over the wasterock. Vegetation on this slope showed signs of heavy grazing and there were cattle nearby at this time. The smaller waste dump had some topsoil placed over the waste rock, but the revegetation success was very minimal. The surface of the small dump was smooth and there were some erosional channels on the slopes of this dump as well.

Back at the pad area there were two PVC pipes broken off at ground level, which sounded like they were connected to an underground pipe or tank that is hollow. The mine plan will need to be reviewed to determine what these pipes may be connected to.

In conclusion, the backfilled features appear to be stable. The regraded waste rock dumps show some signs of erosion. Revegetation success on the dumps is better on the topsoiled portions of the dumps, but vegetation success is poor in general. According to Division files this site was reclaimed in the fall of 1995 with some regrading and seeding performed by the BLM in the fall of 1997. Given the lack of available topsoil for regrading, it may not be possible to expect a significant improvement in revegetation of the waste rock areas. The Division will need to contact the BLM to discuss the possible release of this site.

jb  
cc: W. L. Wilson, Sinbad Mining Corp.  
Dean Nyffeler, BLM w/copy of photos  
M15-30.ins



SUSPECTED  
SHAFT SITE









